

Curriculum Newsletter

Summer Term ~ Class 3 (Y3/4)

In order for you to feel clear about the teaching and learning intentions for the Summer Term 2021, I hope that you find reading this newsletter helpful ...

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a restful Easter break. This term the specific focus will be on History, Geography and English – but of course, all subjects will be included. The aim of the Project will be for children to become a crew of 17th Century Privateers. The children will be learning about a study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends their chronological knowledge beyond 1066; the geography of the Caribbean Sea, islands and Central America; the emergence and importance of European colonialism in The New World in the 17th century; how privateering became a low-cost war against the Spanish for Britain and how sailors lived and worked in the 17th century.

This theme will provide the children with high quality material for developing skills in English and Mathematics. Their Historical knowledge, geographical awareness and artistic and practical skills will link with other subjects across the curriculum to create an overarching 'project' theme. In the course of their learning, the children will use this learning to read and write stories, letters, discussions and diaries.

English work will include descriptive, narrative, diary and letter writing, but will also include a work on non-fiction text structures. All the texts we share will support the learning of subject vocabulary and help the children develop their reading fluency, comprehension and vocabulary skills.

Mathematics work will focus further on number including decimals. There will be learning of position, direction and the geometry of shapes. Understanding graphs and charts will be taught and the children will be learning about the measurement and telling of time both analogue and digital. There will as always, be a **strong** focus on learning multiplication tables, especially for the Year 3 children as they work towards next year's Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). I hope that you will continue to use TTRockstars and Prodigy, which will be tailored to back up what is happening in class.

Across non-core subjects, they will study maps and atlases to improve the clarity of their understanding of compass directions, scale and the position of countries and places in relation to each other and how time zones differ. Art work will include a study of portraiture, learning about the impact of artists like Holbein, Dürer and Rembrandt.

Restrictions permitting, the children will also learn the stories and tunes of traditional and modern sea shanties.

They will be learning the science of the circuits and conductors and how materials can change states between solids, liquids and gases. And with our sports provider Premier Education (MSP) they will be developing skills, control, coordination and teamwork in games. Please remember **ALL PE is outside**, whatever the weather!

Mr. M Watson, Mr D Hay & Mrs K Cottier

Update:

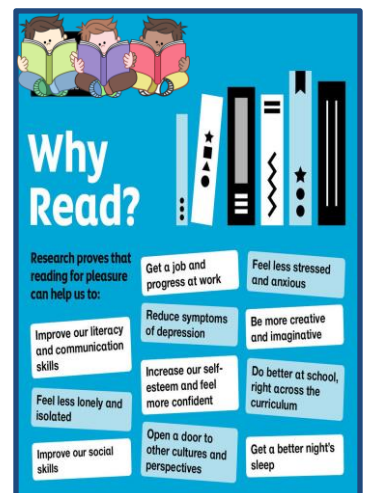
As we continue to postpone our return to Project homework, we will instead focus on supporting our core-subject learning. We will upload extra teaching videos on your child's TEAMS account to supplement what we do in school.

Homework, as ever, will include a mixture of Prodigy, TTRockstars and ReadTheory (login in their Reading Diary). Please use these resources several times a week, as it is proven to have a hugely positive impact on children's achievement.

We all value your support in these continuingly challenging times.

Messages:

- P.E will to take place on **Wednesday**.
- Please ensure that your child comes to school on that day in labelled school PE kit.
- For PE, can earrings please be removed and long hair **must** be tied back securely.
- Thank you for continuing to engage with Class Dojo to keep up to date with what is happening in school. Please check the 'Class Story' and 'School Story' updates which give a window into the classroom. This will keep you informed about everything happening in school.



Why Read?

Research proves that reading for pleasure can help us to:

- Get a job and progress at work
- Reduce symptoms of depression
- Increase our self-esteem and feel more confident
- Open a door to other cultures and perspectives
- Feel less stressed and anxious
- Be more creative and imaginative
- Do better at school, right across the curriculum
- Get a better night's sleep
- Improve our literacy and communication skills
- Feel less lonely and isolated
- Improve our social skills